

## Department of Justice

## § 2.26

to (or to) the nearer limit of the appropriate guideline range; or

(2) On his own motion, modify the recommendation of a hearing examiner panel to bring the decision to a date not to exceed six months from the date recommended by the examiner panel;

(3) Return the case to the institution for a rehearing, provided that a notice of action is sent to the prisoner specifying the purpose of the rehearing;

(4) Designate the case for the original jurisdiction of the Commission pursuant to § 2.17.

[42 FR 39809, Aug. 5, 1977, as amended at 45 FR 84053, Dec. 22, 1980; 46 FR 35639, July 10, 1981]

### § 2.25 [Reserved]

### § 2.26 Appeal to National Appeals Board.

(a) A prisoner or parolee may submit to the National Appeals Board a written appeal of any decision to grant (other than a decision to grant parole on the date of parole eligibility), rescind, deny, or revoke parole, except that any appeal of a Commission decision pursuant to § 2.17 shall be pursuant to § 2.27. This appeal must be filed on a form provided for that purpose within thirty days from the date of entry of such decision. No exhibits are to be attached to an administrative appeal unless the documents therein contain new information and materials not already in the possession of the Commission. Any submitted exhibits which are copies of material already in the Commission's files will not be retained by the Commission.

(b)(1) The National Appeals Board may: Affirm the decision of a Regional Commissioner on the vote of a single Commissioner other than the Commissioner who issued the decision from which the appeal is taken; or modify or reverse the decision of a Regional Commissioner, or order a new hearing, upon the concurrence of two Commissioners. The Commissioner first reviewing the case may in his discretion circulate the case for review and vote by the other Commissioners notwithstanding his own vote to affirm the Regional Commissioner's decision. In such event, the case shall be decided by the concurrence of two out of three votes.

(2) All Commissioners serve as members of the National Appeals Board, and it shall in no case be an objection to a decision of the Board that the Commissioner who issued the decision from which an appeal is taken participated as a voting member on appeal.

(c) The National Appeals Board shall act within sixty days of receipt of the appellant's papers, to affirm, modify, or reverse the decision. Decisions of the National Appeals Board shall be final.

(d) If no appeal is filed within thirty days of the date of entry of the original decision, such decision shall stand as the final decision of the Commission.

(e) Appeals under this section may be based upon the following grounds:

(1) That the guidelines were incorrectly applied as to any or all of the following:

- (i) Severity rating;
- (ii) Salient factor score;
- (iii) Time in custody;

(2) That a decision outside the guidelines was not supported by the reasons or facts as stated;

(3) That especially mitigating circumstances (for example, facts relating to the severity of the offense or the prisoner's probability of success on parole) justify a different decision;

(4) That a decision was based on erroneous information, and the actual facts justify a different decision;

(5) That the Commission did not follow correct procedure in deciding the case, and a different decision would have resulted if the error had not occurred;

(6) There was significant information in existence but not known at the time of the hearing;

(7) There are compelling reasons why a more lenient decision should be rendered on grounds of compassion.

(f) Upon the written request of the Attorney General seeking review of a decision of a Regional Commissioner, which is received within 30 days of such decision, the National Appeals Board shall reaffirm, modify, or reverse the Regional Commissioner's decision within 60 days of receipt of the Attorney General's request. The National Appeals Board shall inform the Attorney General and the prisoner to whom the decision applies in writing of its